Client's ref. : TSMC2002-0609 File : 0503-9447usf / Alex Chen / Kevin / TKHR

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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for detecting unauthorized hardware devices in a local area network. A device detection unit scans ports of network devices to calculate the number of ports with more than two MAC addresses. A device processing unit subtracts the number of ports with more than two authorized MAC addresses from the number of total ports (including authorized and unauthorized) with more than two MAC addresses to obtain a listing of unauthorized MAC addresses, and thereby ascertain identities of unauthorized hardware devices.